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TO THE WHITE HOUSE

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CONFIDENTIAL 160808Z JUL 71 FROM: AMBASSADOR PORTER SEOUL 743

TO: DR. HENRY KISSINGER

PRIOR TO PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT ABOUT YOUR VISIT TO PEKING, I WAS PLANNING TO SEND YOU MESSAGE TO EFFECT THAT IT WAS VERY NOTICEABLE THAT, WHILE OTHER HIGH LEVEL U.S. VISITS TO EAST ASIA AND SOUTH ASIA WERE EVOKING CONSIDERABLE DENUNCIATION FROM COMMUNIST RADIOS, INCLUDING PEKING, THERE WAS ABSOLUTE SILENCE ABOUT YOUR OWN TRAVELS, WHICH I FOUND VERY CURIOUS.

2. THE EFFECT IN FAR EAST WILL OF COURSE BE TREMENDOUS. AS FAR AS KOREA IS CONCERNED, AFTER INITIAL SURPRISE, GOVT AND PUBLIC WILL SETTLE DOWN TO ESTIMATE PURPOSE AND NOTE

EFFECTS.

3. PRESIDENTS'S ACCEPTANCE OF INVITATION IS OF COURSE CENTERPIECE OF NEWS ITEM, AND MARKS OUR DETERMINATION TO DIG OURSELVES OUT OF CEMENT THAT FOR MUCH TOO LONG HAS HELD US IN RIGID AND UNPRODUCTIVE POSTURE IN THIS PART OF WORLD, AND IT REPRESENTS A MOST IMAGINATIVE AND LONG-NEEDED INITIATIVE IN AMERICAN DIPLOMACY. WARMEST REGARDS.

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ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS
APPLY

DOS Review Completed.

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No Objection to Declassification in Part 2011/12/13: LOC-HAK-115-1-18-3